

PRESS RELEASE

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MADISON CRACK DEALER SENTENCED TO 24 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Devada Burns, 45, of Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 24 years in federal prison, without parole, for possessing crack cocaine with intent to distribute.

The charge was based on a search warrant conducted on August 31, 2006 at Burns' residence on Allied Drive. He pleaded guilty to the charge on February 26, 2007.

It was established at sentencing that Burns was responsible for more than 5,400 crack cocaine transactions in the Allied Drive neighborhood in the 18 months leading up to the search warrant. He conducted at least 10 drug transactions daily, making an average of \$300 per day. This was his sixth felony drug conviction.

The charges against the defendant were the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith P. Duchemin.

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